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REMARKS

Claims 7 and 8 have been canceled. Applicants amend claims 1, 4, 6, and 9 for clarification and add new claim 15 to round out the scope of the claimed invention. Applicants refer to page 8, line 7 to page 9, line 16 of the specification and Fig. 10 for exemplary embodiments of and support for the claimed invention. Claims 1-6 and 9-15 are pending in the application. No new matter has been added.

With respect to Applicants' 35 U.S.C. § 119 priority claim, Applicants merely request that the Examiner acknowledge, on the Summary Sheet, that Applicants made such a claim and that all certified copies of priority documents—certified by the Japanese Patent Office to be a true copy of the claimed priority application (Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-203183)—have been received. The requirement for a translation to perfect this claim is a separate requirement, which the Director may require under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (3). Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge Applicants' 35 U.S.C. § 119 priority claim and the receipt of all certified copies of the priority applications, and separately indicate whether a translation would be necessary to perfect the priority claim.

The Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) by stating that every feature of the invention specified in the claims must be shown in the drawings. Applicants respectfully submit that the drawings illustrate every feature of the invention as recited in the claims. Fig. 1 illustrates a portable communication terminal 1 being used while playing a golf course hole, and Fig. 10 illustrates a plurality of players each using a portable communication terminal 1 to communicate with a data center. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that the drawings illustrate the claimed invention of a golf data management system comprising a portable communication terminal, which is carried by each player, as claimed.

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Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Applicants amend claim 6 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the § 112, ¶ 1 rejection.

Claims 4 and 9-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention.

Applicants amend claim 4 to clearly recite "an input button on the input device" and "a holed-out button on the input device." Applicants also amend claim 9 to correspond to claim 1 and to correct the antecedent basis issue noted by the Examiner. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the § 112, ¶ 2 rejections.

Claims 9-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,245,537 to Barber; claims 1-6 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,507,485 to Fisher in view of Barber; and claims 13 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fisher in view of Official Notice. Applicants amend claims 1 and 9 in a good faith effort to further clarify the invention as distinguished from the cited references. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Applicants respectfully submit that Fisher and Barber, as cited and relied upon by the Examiner, both only describe specialized devices for the functionality described therein, respectively. And neither reference discloses or suggests a portable communication terminal that is a portable telephone having a golf data management program, as claimed. The references also do not disclose or suggest that claimed button features.

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In other words, even assuming, arguendo, that it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the claimed invention was made to combine Fisher and Barber, the combination would still have failed to disclose or suggest,

“[a] golf data management system comprising:
a portable communication terminal that is a portable telephone having a golf data management program stored therein;
and
a data center that transmits data to and receives data from the portable communication terminal via a communication network,
wherein the portable communication terminal comprises:
a recording unit that records play data including a score and measurement data obtained by measuring a position of a shot or a putt by a measuring unit;
a transmission unit that adds an individual identification number of a player who carries the portable communication terminal to the play data recorded by the recording unit, and transmits the play data to the data center via the communication network after holing out of each hole; and
a display unit that stores the data transmitted from the data center via the communication network, and displays the stored data, and
the data center comprises:
an individual data storage unit that stores and manages practice result data and the play data corresponding to the individual identification number in accordance with each golf course and each play date;
a common data storage unit that stores course map data of a plurality of golf courses; and
an output unit that outputs the play data stored in the individual data storage unit in response to a request from the portable communication terminal,
wherein said portable communication terminal is carried by each player and is connectable to an input device separate from said portable communication terminal via a signal line, infrared signal or radio-frequency signal, and is configured to receive at least a portion of the play data from the separate input device, the input device having input buttons including a shot button, a putt button, and a penalty button,” as recited in amended claim 1.
(Emphasis added)

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Advantageously, the claimed invention provides for the option of using a player's portable telephone, which the player would be familiar with, for using the golf management functions. The claimed invention further provides for a simple interface connectable to the portable communication terminal for an even more portable device that incorporates the simplest interface for utilizing the functions.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, together with claims 2-6 and 15 dependent therefrom, is patentable over Fisher and Barber, separately and in combination, for at least the above-stated reasons. Claim 9 incorporates features that correspond to those of claim 1 cited above, and is, therefore, together with claims 10-14 dependent therefrom, patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons.

The above statements on the disclosures in the cited references represent the present opinions of the undersigned attorney. The Examiner is respectfully requested to specifically indicate those portions of the respective reference that provide the basis for a view contrary to any of the above-stated opinions.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

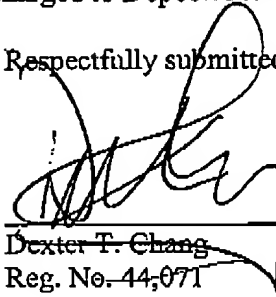
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Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dexter T. Chang', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Dexter T. Chang
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